

October
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Indian Matchmaking: Stereotypes Reinforced?

*Main
Takeaway*

Should an entertainment show bear the burden of being the best representative of the Indian system?

Introduction

Does the series ‘Indian Matchmaking’ hold a mirror to our society, peering into the reality of how most of the general public think? Is the show reinforcing stereotypes attached to ambitious women, class, caste, re-marriages that we thought did not exist in modern India? This conversation unravels and explores some of the central themes surrounding this series, such as the reality of the Indian arranged marriage system in India, gender stereotyping, the need for women to be flexible and compromise for a successful marriage, and the rampant casteism, classism prevalent in our society.



Knowledge Series

Indian Matchmaking: Stereotypes Reinforced?

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In Conversation with
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VIJAYBHOO MI UNIVERSITY
India's First Liberal Professional University

Sunday, 4th October 2020
5:00 PM

Takeaway **Learnings**

- Creating conversations reflect assumptions, prejudices, stereotypes, and validations, helping them find their own critiques.
- In a tried effort to portray the ‘Indian Arranged Marriages’, the diversity of cultures, origins, and socio-economic statuses have lagged.
- Critiques concerning the script and narrative control of shows are needed. There’s a fine line between reflecting stereotypes and glorifying them.
- The character of Nadia is a superficial portrayal and a counter-fault of Aparna; while continually emphasizing the net of independence and conventional duties of a woman.
- In the unknown field of most Indian arranged marriages, people tend to rely on familiar background and stereotypes for a mutual understanding.
- Society stratifies itself in a school, college, or workplace setting. Most professionals unconsciously base their partners on financial stability.
- In an Indian setting, men typically have the freedom to reject potential partners by photographs and resumes, while women doing so are given labels.
- A spectrum of pressures exists on both parties of marriage and has to do with more than Biology. Economic and stigmatic forces coerce individuals to fit in social moulds.
- The script of the show was steered without overt orders, much like the rules of Indian patriarchy.
- The notion of happiness being fulfilled only in a relationship or starting a family makes people desperate to find a partner at the earliest. Interpersonal relationships being an internal domain, have now turned external, which produces predicaments.
- Though the show did not intend to do so, it has presented interesting topics to assess human relationships and Indian realms.
- We must be wary of not making it an echo-chamber and take actionable strides towards it.

Speakers

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